



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476
Phone: 781-316-3000

webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us

Minutes 12/2/2010

Capital Planning Committee
Meeting Minutes
December 2, 2010

In attendance were:

Steve Andrew
Adam Chapdelaine
John FitzMaurice
Charles Foskett, Chairman
Steve Gilligan
Diane Johnson
Ruth Lewis*
Anthony Lionetta
Barbara Thornton

* Denotes those not in attendance

1. Meeting Opened: Charlie Foskett called the meeting to order. CPC members were provided with copies of the Meeting Agenda, various Subcommittee Reports, draft FY 12 Capital Budget, draft Five Year Capital Plan, as well as the Memorandum of the prior CPC meeting. This memorandum (11/18 meeting) was reviewed and approved.

2. Roadway Program: John Bean and Mike Rademacher were present to discuss the Town's Roadway Pavement Management (PM) Program. Mike provided a historical and general overview of the program. Arlington has approximately 100 miles of Town owned public roadways and 25 miles of private ways. The Town's PM program focuses only on the public ways. Over the past 5 years, we have performed rehab on about 12 miles of roadway. The amount of roadways that can undergo rehab every year is dependent on the level of treatment required (crack seal, chip seal, overlay, reclamation and so forth). Mike provided a color coded Town map showing roadways that have been upgraded. There was a discussion over the high amount of private ways in Town.

Over the past several years, \$850k/year has been allocated for roadway pavement rehab (\$500k from Chapter 90 and \$350 from the Town). DPW would like to see the annual allocation raised to be in the range of \$1.1m/year. DPW is also planning to update the program on current field conditions in that it has been almost 6 years since this was done and the program was set up. CPC encouraged this update. Funds would come from Chapter 90. CPC noted that it might be a good idea for DPW to make a presentation at the next town meeting on this program.

Other points made were:

- 1) 10% of the roadway budget goes to police details,
- 2) Utility companies own their patches for the life of the roadway surface, and
- 3) DPW coordinates roadway rehabs with the Water and Sewer Programs.

3. Commission on Disability: John Bean and the other members of the Commission presented their request for \$1.5m in CPC funds to install wheelchair ramps, where they are not currently present. (estimated to be 800 locations) This would be a town-wide effort. Wheelchair sidewalk ramps (as well as other measures) have been

required since 1990 (the Commission formed in 1993). To date about 900 ramps have been constructed (although it appears that some of these may not be in full compliance). We currently do about 60 new ramps a year. The Commission would like to see all of the remaining 800 locations done together as one project.

The CPC discussion included questions whether the Town could afford this size project. Steve Gilligan raised the idea of funding the project via bonding now and then paying down the debt using the annual CDBG funds over the next 10 years or so. The cost to do these is estimated to be \$1.5m (although from discussions it appears that this may be low >> \$3m may be more in the range). To do this may impact other projects. Other important questions are whether the Town actually has the capabilities to implement such a large effort all at once and, whether the level of construction disruption would be acceptable.

Charlie Foskett stated that the CPC would review the request in relation to all of the above as well as other requests. CPC noted that an incremental approach may need to be followed and that the Commission may want to work with DPW to prioritize the location of new ramps. Tony Lionetta and Steve Gilligan will liaison with John Bean on this.

Other comments noted on handicap access were that brick sidewalks are not conducive, that there are thresholds at the Senior Center, which are raised and are barriers (John Bean is acting to correct these) and, that there is an access problem at the bottom of the handicap ramp at the Library. The CPC suggested that the Commission (via Jack Jones) communicate directly with the appropriate department heads (like the Librarian) on issues as they are observed.

4. Public Works Request: Tony Lionetta reported on the Subcommittee's review of Public Works Requests. (Written report provided) Highlighted comments were:

- There is about \$60k in residual balances that can be swept.
- The question was raised whether solar panels should be installed on the flat roof areas of DPW Building C.
- Charlie Foskett asked Tony Lionetta to request an electronic copy of John Bean's Vehicle Inventory Table.

5. Park Requests: Steve Gilligan reported on the Subcommittee's meeting on Park Requests. (Written report provided) Highlighted comments are as follows:

- There is at least \$20k in residual balances in prior year requests. This is also another \$24k left in the Spy Pond Item that can be swept.
- There was a CPC request made for the Feasibility Study item to be limited to \$10k every other year.
- Peirce School Turf item should be deleted.
- Relative to the Robbin's Farm slide replacement, the CPC requested to know who specified the current slide, which was replaced about 8 years ago.

6. Facility Maintenance Planning: Barbara Thornton reported on her draft proposal for Facility Management Plan. The Initiative for Facility Maintenance Planning (IFMP) would establish a means for maintaining buildings and be similar to the Capital Plan. The IFMP would be funded at 3% of the Town's Operating budget. (the program would be initiated at .5% the first year and then incrementally rise to 3% over a six year period)

7. Review Draft Capital Plan: Charlie Foskett requested that members review the Draft Capital Plan provided and mark it up with any changes that have come about through the various Subcommittee meetings.

8. Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for December 16, 2010 at 5PM.

9. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned.